



New Internationalist

The people, the ideas, the action in the fight for global justice

Countries

NEW INTERNATIONALIST EASIER ENGLISH
IELTS / ADVANCED READY LESSON

The lesson today:

Speaking: discussion about countries

Reading: scan reading

Reading: for detailed information

Language focus: comparing simplified articles with original



Discuss: which countries were these photos taken in?



Discuss: what do you know about these countries?

Malawi



Indonesia



Mauritius



Find the 3 countries on the map:



Discuss: which (of Malawi, Indonesia or Mauritius) are the following statements about?

1. Population: 239.9 million / life expectancy: 69
2. Population: 14.9 million / life expectancy: 54
3. Population: 1.3 million / life expectancy: 73
4. It's the biggest investor in India
5. Almost half the population live on under 2 dollars a day
6. The dodo became extinct here in 1780
7. It became independent from the British in 1968
8. It had the first female President in southern Africa (Joyce Banda)

Now quickly scan the 3 articles to find out:

Mauritius:

- http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile: Mauritius

Indonesia:

- http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Indonesia

Malawi:

- http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Malawi

Key:



- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Population: 239.9 million / life expectancy: 69 | 1. Indonesia |
| 2. Population: 14.9 million / life expectancy: 54 | 2. Malawi |
| 3. Population: 1.3 million / life expectancy: 73 | 3. Mauritius |
| 4. It's the biggest investor in India | 4. Mauritius |
| 5. Almost half the population live on under 2 dollars a day | 5. Indonesia |
| 6. The dodo became extinct here in 1780 | 6. Mauritius |
| 7. It became independent from the British in 1968 | 7. Mauritius |
| 8. It had the first female President in southern Africa (Joyce Banda) | 8. Malawi |

Now read the articles again and
find out and discuss:

Which of the 3 countries:

- a) is the most politically unstable?
- b) has seen the most development?
- c) would you like to live in – and why?



Mauritius: [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile: Mauritius](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile:_Mauritius)

Indonesia: [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Indonesia](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile_-_Indonesia)

Malawi: [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Malawi](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile_-_Malawi)

Now read and compare the Easier English articles with the originals. This is the original – what do the red phrases mean?

There was jubilation and ululation on the streets of Malawi's capital Lilongwe when news broke out that President Bingu wa Mutharika had died following a heart attack in his office. This was in April 2012, three years into his second term of office. Many blamed him for turning his back on 18 years of democracy in a country fondly described as the 'Warm Heart of Africa'.

This is the Easier English version –
check your understanding:

Everyone was happy, everyone celebrated when they heard the news that President Bingu wa Mutharika had died from a heart attack in his office. This was in April 2012, three years after his second term as president began. Many people said he was turning his back on 18 years of democracy in a country called the 'Warm Heart of Africa'.

Now read, compare and learn new language from all 3 articles:

Easier English articles:

Mauritius:

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile:_Mauritius

Indonesia:

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile_-_Indonesia

Malawi:

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile_-_Malawi



Original articles:

Mauritius:

<http://newint.org/columns/country/2013/04/01/country-profile-mauritius/>

Indonesia:

<http://newint.org/columns/country/2013/05/01/country-profile-indonesia/>

Malawi:

<http://newint.org/columns/country/2013/06/01/malawi/>



Homework:



There are many more Easier English articles on the wiki:

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Main_Page

Select one you are interested in (from one of the magazine covers, or from the “categories” on the left), read it, then compare it with the original article (at the bottom). Note down all the new vocabulary, phrases and grammar.